Application No. 10/692,909 Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

Claims 1-51 have been amended only to correct some minor clerical errors and to make some minor grammatical improvements and to correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to put them in better form for issuance in a U.S. patent. These amendments are not related to patentability and do not narrow the scope of the claims either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

In addition, new independent claims 52, 71 and 90 have been added to recite a color image forming apparatus, a scanning optical system for use in a color image forming apparatus, and a color image forming apparatus including a developing device for forming a color toner image, respectively, corresponding to claims 1, 18 and 35, wherein at least one lens of the plurality of lenses of the first optical device is rotatable around an axis parallel to the length of the at least one rotatable lens to adjust a characteristic of a first scan line image prior to fixing a position of the rotatable lens.

New claims 53-70, 72-89 and 91-108, moreover, have been added to recite additional features of the present invention depending from new claims 52, 71 and 90, respectively.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

CLAIM FEE

The application was originally filed with 51 claims of which 3 were independent, and the appropriate claim fee was paid for such claims. The application now contains 108 claims, of which 6 are independent. Accordingly, a claim fee in the amount of \$1284.00 for the addition of 3 extra independent claims and 57 extra claims in total is attached hereto. In addition, authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees which may be determined to be required to Account No. 06-1378.

It is respectfully requested that prosecution on the merits proceed in light of this Preliminary Amendment.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Holtz Reg. No. 33,902

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman & Chick, P.C. 767 Third Avenue - 25th Floor New York, New York 10017-2023 Tel. No. (212) 319-4900 Fax No. (212) 319-5101 DH:iv encs.